Role of Planning Commission

879. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that he has directed a special note to be prepared on the role of the Planning Commission in the wake of changing economic scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Commission is proposed to be converted into a statutory body independent of Government control and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Planning Commission has been directed to undertake review of the role of Planning Commission in the wake of changed economic scenario. The exercise is in progress.

(c) There is no proposal as yet on converting Planning Commission into a statutory body. The Planning Commission exists as per Government of India's Resolution of 15th March, 1950.